

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Limited Resource Producer

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Limited Resource Producer		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:	Telephone:	
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer implement conservation practices which:	
3. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean Air: Treatment of air quality from agricultural sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
4. a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO ₂ (Carbon Dioxide), CH ₄ (Methane), and N ₂ O (Nitrous Oxide)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
6. a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project assist the producer implement practices which:	

7. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
8. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP (122,124)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
9. a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will this EQIP application correct deficiencies in agricultural waste or water quality oriented land management practice associated with one or more land units located in a watershed containing an agriculturally stressed segment of water identified on the State of Vermont 303(d) list of impaired waters, surface water source protection areas, or in a public wellhead protection area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will this treatment address a critical water quality resource concern on a farm located in the Lake Champlain or Lake Memphremagog watershed? See map for clarification. (Points for this question may be granted in addition to Question #1).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Has a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP), Nutrient Management Plan (NMP), or Forest Management Plan that meets NRCS' standards and specifications been developed and/or updated within the last 3 years, but is not yet fully implemented and will be addressed with this application?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will the implementation of any of the practices within the application allow the producer, regardless of the size of the operation, to address a significant contribution of pollutants to waters of the US?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does the application include a structural waste management practice where a system does not already exist on the farm and where field stacking is not feasible and where water quality concerns need to be addressed?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Does this application include land management practices that will reduce soil erosion by at least 2 tons per acre and to 'T' or less on cropland fields of 8% or greater slope?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Will this application include practices and/or management changes that will provide benefits to soil and water quality on land units which are currently managed as continuous annual cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Will the applicant convert an existing livestock confinement operation (pasture is not utilized or is substantially underutilized) to a grass/pasture-based operation and a minimum of 50% of current annual or rotated cropland operated by the applicant is converted to permanent vegetation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Will all pastures where livestock have access to perennial or intermittent streams be treated (livestock will be excluded from surface waters or access will be managed)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Will this application include practices and/or management changes that will provide benefits to soil quality where a documented soil quality resource concern exists or where needed based on a soil health assessment?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. Does this application include at least one practice to assist the participant in converting to drip irrigation on 50% or more of their existing irrigated land?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. ANSWER YES TO 12 OR 13 BUT NOT BOTH. Does this application include at least one practice that will reduce soil erosion and result in an improvement in water quality of streams, water bodies, or wetlands?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

13. Does this application include at least one practice that will reduce only soil erosion on forest land?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Bennington Local Working Group	
1. Does this application include practices to control invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will this application address water quality issues associated with a livestock operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Does this application improve soil health with cover crop, mulching, crop rotation, and/or residue management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will this application improve the availability and sustainability of foods for local markets?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will this practice reduce soil erosion or other water quality issues occurring within 100 feet of a blue line stream?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Franklin and Grand Isle Local Working Group	
6. Does this application promote forest health and productivity by removing damaged or diseased trees?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Does this application reduce soil erosion to below T by the installation of agronomic practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Does this application prevent or reduce direct discharge of nutrients to a waterway?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Does this application reduce sediment or nutrient loss from the edge of fields?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Does this application include practices that facilitate excluding livestock from water courses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Poultney Mettawee Local Working Group	
11. Will this application address water quality concerns within 100' of an impaired waterbody or waters indicating high nutrient counts according to PMNRCD water quality monitoring?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Will this application address soil erosion within 50' of a river corridor as delineated in a river corridor plan or within 100' of a blue line stream if there is no river corridor plan for the planned area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. Will this application be part of a farm plan for increased nutrient management planning (development or implementation of an NMP or nutrient management work with a trained consultant)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. Will this application include invasive plant control.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. Will this application address recommendations of the South Lake nutrient workplan or PM Basin plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Rutland Local Working Group	
16. Will this application address invasive plant control.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
17. Will this application address water quality issues identified in a watershed/other action plan/river corridor plan.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
18. Will this application include practices and/or management changes that will provide benefits to soil quality where a documented soil quality resource concern exists.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
19. Does this application include practices which will improve availability of local foods for local markets.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
20. Will this application address Soil Erosion occurring within 100' of a blue line stream.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Ottawaquechee Local Working Group	
21. Were conservation practices selected that help reduce nitrogen loading in any surface water in the Connecticut River Watershed?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
22. Will this application include practices that will address soil erosion concerns within 100 feet of a blue line stream?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
23. Does this application address invasive species identified in the participant's forest management plan, and does the plan also include practices to promote native species regeneration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
24. Will the application include critical area planting, buffers, and/or forest trails and landings in order to address soil erosion and/or water quality resource concerns?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
25. Does this application include practices to address water quality resource concerns through improved nutrient management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Windham Local Working Group	

26. Will this application include practices that help reduce nitrogen loading into surface waters that feed into the Connecticut River?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
27. Will this application include invasive species control, critical area planting, and/or tree/shrub establishment in order to address invasive species control and/or to prevent their establishment or re-establishment?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
28. Will this application include reduced tillage, crop rotation, mulching, or cover crop practices to address soil health and/or soil quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
29. Will this application include integrated pest management techniques to reduce the use of pesticides and/or will it include nutrient management techniques to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
30. Will this application address soil erosion occurring within 100 feet of a blue line stream?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Caledonia Local Working Group	
31. Does this application include management plans that help mitigate environmental resource concerns as well as improve farm viability?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
32. Will the application incorporate nutrient management planning and soil fertility practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
33. Does this application include structural practices to contain agricultural waste runoff?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
34. Will this application include practices that address soil compaction or related agricultural runoff issues?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
35. Does this application include practices that reduce soil erosion on all cropland to soil loss tolerances?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Lamoille Local Working Group	
36. Does this application support organic farming practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
37. Does this application use or include underutilized practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
38. Does this application restore or protect riparian vegetation with a 35 foot buffer zone?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
39. Does this application restore or protect riparian vegetation with a 35 foot buffer zone?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
40. Does this application protect or improve surface water quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Orleans Local Working Group	
41. Does this application include practices that will address soil compaction or related agricultural runoff issues?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
42. Is this application within the Mud Creek, Sterns Brook, Black River, or John's River watersheds?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
43. Does this application incorporate nutrient management planning and soil fertility practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
44. Does this application include management plans that help mitigate environmental resource concerns as well as improve farm viability?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
45. Does this application include practices that reduce soil erosion on all cropland to soil loss tolerances?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
White River Local Working Group	
46. Does this application include management plans that help mitigate environmental resource concerns as well as improve farm viability?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
47. Will this application incorporate nutrient management planning and soil fertility practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
48. Does this application include structural practices to contain agricultural waste runoff?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
49. Will this application include practices that address soil compaction or related agricultural runoff issues?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
50. Does this application include practices that reduce soil erosion on all cropland to soil loss tolerances?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Otter Creek Local Working Group	
51. Will this EQIP application address management of streamside areas?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
52. Will this EQIP application reduce Phosphorus loading in surface waters from the farmstead or production area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
53. Will this EQIP application improve water quality by addressing conservation tillage and cover cropping in watershed areas where streams are identified as 303(d) stressed segment of water?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
54. Will this EQIP application improve water quality by addressing alternative manure application methods including direct manure incorporation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
55. Will this EQIP application address, where needed, as a component of a Grazing Management Plan	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

grazing practices to include: practices needed for cattle exclusion from water courses including stream crossing (code 578), animal trails and walkways (code 575), fence (code 382), and alternative water supply for cattle watering facility (614).	
Winooski Local Working Group	
56. Will this application lead to a decrease in nutrient loading from the farmstead into nearby water bodies or drainage ditches located within a watershed identified on the State of Vermont 303(d) list of impaired waters?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
57. Does the proposed project provide assurances for the protection of water resources?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
58. Will the proposed project lead to decreased rates of soil erosion?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
59. Is the proposed project identified in a LTP, NMP, or Grazing Plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
60. Will the proposed project help to maintain, create, or enhance habitat for Vermont species of greatest conservation need?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Essex Local Working Group	
61. Does this application include management plans that help mitigate environmental resource concerns as well as improve farm viability?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
62. Will the application incorporate nutrient management planning and soil fertility practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
63. Does this application include structural practices to contain agricultural waste runoff?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
64. Will this application include practices that address soil compaction or related agricultural runoff issues?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
65. Does this application include practices that reduce soil erosion on all cropland to soil loss tolerances?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency: Local Issues: State Issues: National Issues: Final Ranking Score:
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative: Signature Date:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy: Signature Date:
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